AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIFICATION

Amend the specification on pages 5-6, paragraph [0068], with, the following paragraph:

[0068] FIG. 1 shows an embodiment of the device according to the invention with an aligning belt **1** and a portioning belt **3** . The products **2** (only three are shown) are conveyed by the aligning belt. The conveying device is symbolised by arrow **11** . The spacing of the products **2** on the aligning belt **1** does not have to be constant in the conveying direction **11** . The aligning belt has a machine frame (not shown) in which a conventional endless belt is arranged. The ~~endless~~ aligning belt is driven at a constant speed by a servomotor **24**. The aligning belt has a transfer edge **4** at which the products **2** are dropped onto the portioning belt **3** . In the present embodiment of the present invention, the transfer edge can be moved relative to the portioning belt, both in and counter to the conveying direction **11** as well as transversely to the conveying direction **11** of the aligning belt, and this is symbolised by the double arrows **7** and **8** . To change the position of the transfer edge **4** in/counter to the conveying direction **11** , the transfer edge **4** is displaceably mounted, relative to the machine frame, in a guide (not shown), whereby the conveyor belt is lengthened or shortened. The transfer edge is driven by a servomotor **25** (FIG. 10). In this embodiment of the present invention the products **2** can be ejected via a fast return stroke, so the tilting effect of the products during the parabolic trajectory is reduced. A person skilled in the art understands that, for this purpose, belt length compensation has to be provided on the aligning belt, so, on the one hand, there is sufficient belt length available but, on the other hand, the belt is always taut. The movement of the transfer edge **4** transversely to the conveying direction **8** is achieved by movement of the entire aligning belt **1** which takes place via a servomotor. A person skilled in the art understands that the movement of the aligning belt in the conveying direction of the products can also be achieved by displacement of the entire aligning belt. As the two movements can be superimposed, any desired points in a plane can be approached. The movement of the transfer edge of the aligning belt **1** is dimensioned such that, by taking into account the throw parabola, the products **2** can be deposited at all desired points of the portioning belt **3** . The movement of the ~~ejection~~ transfer edge **4** has to take place so rapidly between two ejections that the ~~ejection~~ transfer edge has reached its new position at least by the time the product to be ejected reaches the ~~ejection~~ transfer edge. The portioning belt **3** is stationary as the products **2** are

being deposited in specific portions **6** and formats **5** . The portioning belt **3** is, in the present case, also configured as a conveyor belt which conveys the products in a clocked manner in the direction symbolised by the arrow **14** , once a format configuration **5** , which in the present case consists of six adjacent portions **6** in two rows, has been deposited on the portioning belt. A person skilled in the art understands that this function can also be used for the portion and/or format formation. The ~~conveyor~~ portioning belt is driven by a servomotor **23**. The device according to the invention comprises a controller **22**, which controls the position of the transfer edge in such a way that any desired portion patterns and format can be produced on the portioning belt. The controller also controls the advance **14**.

Amend the specification on page 6, paragraph [0071], with, the following paragraph:

[0071] At the beginning of the aligning belt **1** , the device according to the invention comprises a detection means **21** (e.g., a photocell), ~~(not shown)~~ which detects at least the position of the products **2** on the aligning belt in the conveying direction. The further path and speed of the respective products **2** on the respective portions **6** on the aligning and portioning belts is then calculated exactly, so that at any time the device according to the invention knows exactly where the respective product is located and at what speed it is moving..

Amend the specification on page 7, paragraph [0081], with, the following paragraph:

[0081] It will again be described with reference to this example how the products are positioned. The device according to the invention consists of an aligning belt **1** and a portioning belt **3**. In this case, the aligning belt **1** is parallel to the packaging machine with the loading station **16** , and the portioning belt **3** transverse to the ~~conveyor~~ aligning belt **1** and to the loading station **16** of the packaging machine. The aligning belt **1** conveys the row of incoming products or portions to the portioning belt **3**. This in turn then conveys the products **2** as portions **6** arranged in a specific format **5** to the loading station **16** of the packaging machine. In principle, the two belts **1** , **3** , as endless belts, are identical. They differ in the selected example only in their width. A servomotor **24, 25** (FIG. 1) for driving the ~~conveyor~~ aligning belt and the conveying belt, respectively, and a servomotor **25, 26** (FIG. 10) for driving the movement of the

transfer edge **4** of the aligning belt **1** and the belt end[[s **4**,]] **15** ~~are located in each of the two conveyor belts **1**,~~ of the portioning belt **3**, respectively. As a result of this arrangement the transfer edge **4** and the belt end [[**4**,]] **15** can be moved back and forth. As already mentioned this embodiment is also called a shuttle belt.